



NUUANU/ PUNCHBOWL NEIGHBORHOOD BOARD NO. 12

c/o NEIGHBORHOOD COMMISSION • 530 SOUTH KING STREET ROOM 400 • HONOLULU, HAWAII, 96813
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MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING TUESDAY, JULY 18, 2006 BOOTH DISTRICT PARK

CALL TO ORDER: Chair Canopin called the meeting to order at 7:15 p.m. The packets for each Board member containing reports of the emergency service agencies and legislators, and other items necessary to complete the evening's agenda were distributed prior to beginning of the meeting.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Mason Aiona, Dean Asahina (7:27 p.m.), James Bannan, Al Canopin, Heather Crislip, Audrey Hidano, Phillip Nerney, Remy Luria (7:17 p.m.) Wendy Ogawa, Patt Spencer, Sylvia Young,

MEMBERS ABSENT: Richard Carreira, Paula Kurashige.

GUESTS: Mark Bennett (Governor's Representative), Gail Haraguchi (Mayor's Representative), State Representative Sylvia Luke, Officer Ryan Pagan (HPD - District 1 Honolulu), Sgt. Ishii (HPD – District 5 Kalihi), Capt. Wendell Soo (Honolulu Fire Department), Kanani Texeira, Senator Suzanne Chun Oakland, Vanessa Matautia (Neighborhood Office Staff).

VACANCIES:

Subdistrict 1- one seat – Chair Canopin announced that Leimamo Kapea had resigned creating the vacancy. No interested candidates were present.

Subdistrict 3 - one seat – No interested candidates were present.

FIRE AND POLICE:

HONOLULU FIRE DEPARTMENT (HFD) Captain Wendell Soo gave the following report:

- A. Last month, the Nuuanu Fire Station responded to a total of 1 structure and 1 rubbish fires, 37 medical emergencies and 17 miscellaneous calls.
- B. **FIRE SAFETY TIP:** Take the time to childproof your home, especially since keiki are on summer vacation. Check for potentially dangerous situations, i.e., electrical shock, accidental falls, or poisoning from medications, cleaning fluids, and houseplants. Keep matches and lighters in a safe place and out of the reach of small children.
- C. Reported the following in response to last month's meeting:
 1. The cause of the fire at 2331 Pauoa road was electrical but HFD does not have any further information because they do not inspect private homes.
 2. Regarding what information needs to be provided to ambulance personnel when transferring a patient, the patient's ID (preferably a State Driver's License) and either a list of the medications or the medications themselves ready for the paramedics. The rerouting of ambulances is determined by the availability of emergency rooms at the different hospitals.
 3. Guest Paul Smith asked about the amount of calls to Hale Ho Aloha Nursing Home at 2670 Pacific Heights Road and 12 responses last year and seven so far this year were reported by HFD. A co-response with EMS happens because HFD usually can get to the scene faster and provide care earlier.

Questions, comments and concerns followed:



1. Board member Spencer relayed a message from Paula Kurashige thanking for HFD and Captain Yamada for their quick response to her call for assistance.
2. Board member Young questioned whether the Jaws of Life was used to extricate victims from the car accident on Pauoa road on the night of July 8. Capt. Soo did not have that information and would report back next Board meeting.

HONOLULU POLICE DEPARTMENT (HPD):

District 1, Honolulu: Officer Pagan gave the following report:

1. Regarding the public service announcement television spot showing pedestrians crossing without looking first, HPD has no power over the scenes used in the production.
2. Officer Pagan reported that there was a slight drop in crime from May to June with 4/2 burglaries, 12/8 unauthorized entry into motor vehicle, 6/3 auto thefts, 1/2 simple assaults, and 27/21 motor vehicle collisions.

Questions, comments and concerns followed:

1. Board member Young had two concerns. A. She asked about the car accident on Pauoa Road between the cemetery and church involving TheBus. She believes that speeding around parked cars and the illegal parking near the corner of Pauoa Road has been a contributing factor to multiple accidents in the area. Young asked if the area could be monitored, and possibly have a no parking zone in blind spots and on the corners instead of posted 'no parking' hours to ensure a safer traversed road. B) The credit union located at 2219 Pauoa Road asked if HPD would monitor their parking lot at night. The parking lot remains open at night due to businesses that deposit night drops but over the past few months they have seen an increase of empty beer bottles and clothing remnants. The credit union believes that drinking and other illegal activities are happening in the parking lot at night.
2. Board member Spencer reported a dumping problem around the fire hydrant at the first hair-pin turn on the 2400 block of Pacific Heights Road which is a safety concern for the community. She asked that HPD patrol the area in order to protect the fire hydrant.
3. Board member Aiona reported that a resident had questioned him regarding the towing of a resident's car. The resident reported that HPD had stated that a Board member had called in the resident's car as being derelict. Aiona asked for confirmation that HPD does not give names out and believed that this was more a personal attack than one toward the Board. Officer Pagan confirmed that HPD does not give names of reporters.
4. Board member Asahina reported that a resident on Henry Street had HPD respond to their home on a burglary in process, which turned out to be a prank. He questioned whether or not HPD kept logs of these events and whether or not information regarding the call was available. Officer Pagan stated that logs are kept and the neighbor can contact HPD for further information.
5. Board member Luria questioned why the City contracts with tow companies have not been withdrawn due to the inability to tow tagged cars. It was reported to the Board by HPD that the tow companies' yards were full with cars because of a new law that makes it easier to tow abandoned cars. Luria believes that the contracts should be withdrawn and be made available to other tow companies in order to expedite the problem of abandoned/derelict cars in the area. Officer Pagan stated that he did not have information regarding the City contract with tow companies' and would report back to the Board.
6. Board member Young reported that on the evening of July 4th, persons in a car cruising in the neighborhood were seen throwing lighted fireworks into neighboring yards. HPD was called and she thanked them for their fast response of 20 minutes, but commented that the attitude of the officer seemed to her if the call were a bother. Officer Pagan reported that a resident can ask for a supervisor to report the conduct of the officer in question.

7. A resident questioned the constant double parking that occurs on Kanealii and Huanu Streets. The resident has called 911 on several previous occasions and asked what else could be done on her part to curb the action and if possible have "no parking" signs posted on the corners. Officer Pagan stated that she should continue to report offenders to 911. Board members Young and Ogawa also commented that parking is allowed on both sides of the street and parking violators who park too close to the corner should be called into Police.

District 5, Kalihi: Sgt. Ishii gave the following report:

The district had a total of one sex offense, one burglary, eight thefts, 12 unauthorized entries into motor vehicle, two motor vehicle thefts, three assaults, one property damage, two drug/narcotics, one DUI liquor, 24 motor vehicle collisions and nine arguments.

Questions, comments, and concerns:

The Board asked that District give highlights of the past month rather than statistics. Sgt. Ishii stated that he would remember for next meeting and pass the word along to District 5.

Neighborhood Security Watch

Pauoa - Mason Aiona reported the last week of June, a car parked on Namilimili Street for several weeks was filed as stolen by owners and towed by HPD. Aiona and Officer Chang investigated that the car was bought by a family member and the family acknowledged that it was in a non-working condition and money was exchanged for the car but no title and no papers had been filed. Aiona noted that vehicles passing ownership should be fully documented in order to prevent further incidents like this one. Aiona questioned Officer Pagan if there was anything wrong with how events occurred, and Officer Pagan stated that Aiona did all the right things, and fault was on the family.

Nuuanu - No report.

Pacific Heights – Patt Spencer – Mr. Hoshino of Pacific Heights took over Lori M's computer part of the Neighborhood Security watch only. He doesn't have anything to do with the walks, etc. Spencer suggested to him that he call Aiona and Kurashige for their help, particularly Aiona since many of the problems in Pacific Heights are similar. As for Spencer's being the Pacific Heights representative, she would not be available for this responsibility.

Recess was taken at 7:48 p.m. for Birthday Recognition And Celebration For Neighborhood Board Member(s): Patt Spencer, Remy Luria, and Al Canopin, Jr.

Meeting resumed at 8:00 p.m.

STATE OF HAWAII EXECUTIVE BRANCH – State Attorney General Mark Bennett gave the following report:

1. Several key law enforcement bills passed in the legislature and signed by the Governor this year, including:
 - a. 3 Strikes law – Should an offender have three separate and distinct felony charges, there will be a mandatory prison sentence of 30 years to life.
 - b. Online predator law – This law will allow for better prosecution of online predators that due to outdated laws, it prevents authorities from prosecuting to the full extent. The new law states that if a person is prosecuted, there is a mandatory prison sentence of one year instead of probation.
 - c. Working surveillance law – This law will allocate for better coverage of electronic offenses that otherwise are able to slip through outdated language from 1978 that had no ability to enable law enforcement of today to create a better chance at catching electric offenders.
 - d. State Constitutional amendments: There are several amendments that will be on the ballot in September.

- i. Adolescents/minors who have been victims of sexual abuse will not be required to give specific times and dates of abuse.
- ii. The abolition of the mandatory retirement age for State Court judges. The age is set at 70 years old and the Lingle administration opposes the amendment because current appointees were well aware of the age limit and should be privy to this cut off date. All those appointed after the change will be eligible for service after the age of 70.

Questions, comments and concerns:

1. Board member Spencer asked about the status of the Udown sticker- Graffiti artist. Bennett reported on new laws passed this session that mandate that graffiti offenders would be subject to restitution even with those who are minors. He also reported that the Udown store from Kailua was notified by DOT regarding their website with pictures of the stickers on public property and at this time, the store has taken down the information.
2. Board member Luria commented that restitution by graffiti artists should be required in a timely manner due to the impact of the crime for the neighborhoods that were affected. Bennett reported that private property owners may be able to pursue restitution from the charged graffiti artists.
3. Board member Nerney urged Bennett to have the Department of Land and Natural Resources look at the community's opposition to the Dowsett Highlands development. Bennett stated that Nerney should contact him directly at mark.j.bennett@hawaii.gov regarding this issue.
4. Board member Young commented that in South Carolina, tenants of public housing who commit crimes of a certain degree would be evicted. She questioned whether the State has such rules and believed they might be helpful with requiring those who are residents of Section 8 housing taking responsibility for their children. Bennett reported that Hawaii does have rules to that effect and believes that such a rule might be mandated by the Federal government.
5. Board member Crislip asked if the Governor vigorously opposed the transfer of the appointment of members of the UH Board of Regents from the Governor to the Legislature and Bennett stated that the Governor opposed the change. Crislip also thanked the Governor of her approval on the increased cigarette tax.
6. Board member Hidano thanked the Governor for her veto of several bills pertaining to unemployment and small business. She also thanked the Legislature for not opening a special session called by special interest groups and would not override bills.
7. Board member Spencer commented that due to the increasing problems stemming from liquor, the Governor should also raise the tax on liquor sales. Bennett commented on the recent law enacted that would prosecute those individuals who give alcohol to underage drinkers.

State Attorney General Mark Bennett thanked the Board and will be absent from the August meeting but will be returning to the Board in September.

CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU EXECUTIVE BRANCH – Dep. Director Enterprise Services Gail Haraguchi gave the following report:

1. Inventory of Concerns: She has read the Inventory of Concerns and will help to expedite issues on the list but will take further information for City-related questions and report directly back to the Board next month.
2. The Nuuanu sign located at the Wyllie Street junction will have the landscaping removed by the Department of Facilities Maintenance due to visual hazards. She will continue to work on receiving more updates and report back next month.

Questions, comments and concerns:

1. Board member Nerney believed that the reason why the landscaping was removed is due to Councilmember Tam's dislike of the landscaping project. Nerney also commented on the Nuuanu Dowsett Highlands development and the utter lack of cooperation from the City. He called for a working dialogue between the City and the community in order to provide an amicable resolution to this contested issue. Haraguchi stated that she would relay the information to the Mayor and report back next month.
2. Chair Canopin commented that the town hall meeting in East Honolulu was highly successful and possibly a similar meeting could be planned for our area. Haraguchi replied that she would relay the message to the Mayor and hopefully have a meeting scheduled in September.
3. Board member Luria asked on the status of an audit on abandoned/derelict cars and commented that there was a due date of June 30th that was not kept. Haraguchi would follow up on the request for status and report back at the next meeting. Chair Canopin and Young called for point of order and Luria asked why the
4. Board member Spencer commented that, with the horrible condition of Pauoa Road between the 3-way stop lights and Nuuanu Avenue, every resident of Pauoa Valley and Pacific Heights who drives is held hostage by having to drive on two City streets that are in a deplorable condition. Riding on the No.6 (Pauoa) bus and on the No.15 (Pacific Heights) bus is even more jarring than is a car.
5. Board member Aiona commented on the request for maintenance of Booth District park restroom facilities. He reported that the maintenance is 50% better, and residents are very appreciative. Regarding the request for repair of lighting fixtures surrounding and implanted in the facilities (Item No.18 from the Inventory of Concerns), the Department of Parks and Recreation had repaired lighting fixtures and installed additional lighting for safety issues.

CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU LEGISLATIVE BRANCH – Councilmember Tam's report is included in the packet.

STATE OF HAWAII LEGISLATIVE BRANCH

1. Senator Suzanne Chun Oakland – Sen. Chun Oakland was present earlier and left information for Board members in their packets.
2. Senator Carol Fukunaga – No representative was available for report.
3. Representative Sylvia Luke gave the following report:
 - a. Nuuanu Dam report: enclosed is the full report "Nuuanu Dam No. 4" and reported that the dam, which is owned by the Board of Water Supply, is not as sufficiently maintained as once believed. Preliminary inspections detect problems with this year's legislature's passing House Resolutions 222 and 223 that call for a comprehensive evaluation and study of all dams, streams and drainage canals across the state.
 - b. Graffiti: will be helping to form taskforce groups within the community to gain input in fighting graffiti. Stiffer laws have not worked due to many offenders being underage and it is possible that laws can be provided to make families liable. A possible plan would be to place offenders in an adopt-a-graffiti artist with HPD where they would clean up their own graffiti or clean up other graffiti sites. Rep. Luke also commented on her opposition to the creation of graffiti walls because the idea that graffiti is an expression of art would mean offenders could find other mediums to express themselves rather than disregarding private or public property.
 - c. The Ice (crystal methamphetamine) problem in Hawaii is not being recognized as there has been very little legislation on a drug that 90% of the Ice supply is made elsewhere. Luke commented that enforcing Ice free entry into Hawaiian ports would make better sense than dealing with the penalty of using the drug. Rep. Luke will be working from now until next legislative session on finding possible solutions to providing safeguards for Hawaiian point of entry.

- d. State constitutional amendments: On the next ballot, there will be five or six constitutional amendments included for voter consideration. Sometime next month, those amendments will be sent out with additional information and explanations.

Questions, comments and concerns:

1. Board member Luria commented that graffiti should be made 100% forbidden and to tackle it whenever it occurs in order to deter further graffiti. He also commented on the Ice problem and relayed information regarding a federal study by the National Institutes of Health that stated the ice problem directly correlates to the high price of marijuana. He believes that the federal study should be viewed further by the State Legislature in order to combat the Ice problem. Rep. Luke commented that the study would mean a decriminalizing of marijuana but it still does not answer the problem that Ice is a drug readily made from an assortment of items. Marijuana must still be grown and so this would not allow for a complete solution to the drug use problem.
2. Board member Nerney commented on the Board of Water Supply's presentation to the Board last year. He did not believe much that was said and asked what specific goals would be addressed by the statewide study on the dams. Luke reported that the preliminary reviews are very contradictory to earlier reports of the dam's being safe and saw the potential danger of a collapsed dam in Nuuanu as disastrous. She stated that findings will be used in order to fine those offenders who do not complete recommended repairs. Nerney also asked for her support regarding a Dowsett Highlands proposed development and helping the community that is adamantly against the project with reaching an amicable agreement with the city.
3. Board member Young cautioned Board members that they should consult one another before attending community events in order not to violate State sunshine laws, which say only four N.B. members, may attend.
4. Board member Spencer asked about whom was responsible for cleaning Federal cemetery Punchbowl signs, and Chair Canopin reported that money was being funded by the federal government through Sen. Inouye's office. She also asked that marijuana be decriminalized due to the amount of economic opportunity available.
5. Board member Hidano asked if there were a plan of evacuation for the Nuuanu area if the dam were to break. She commented that she had asked previously if there were a plan by the Board of Water Supply, but there was no information provided as of yet.

APPROVAL OF THE REGULAR MEETING MINUTES OF JUNE 20, 2006 The following corrections were made:

- On page one, under Members' Present, James Bannan was present and not absent.
- On page five, under Message to the Community, it should read "Chair Canopin apologized to the Board and to the community for having spent over half an hour in allowing Remy Luria's concern of abandoned cars go on when it was not on the agenda."
- On page six, under Item number 5, delete "as such."
- On page six, under Item number 7, it should read "The bridge is owned by Hawaiian Homes (DHHL). It was privately owned, then DHHL wanted to turn it over to Pauoa School, they didn't want to take it."

The minutes were approved as corrected with Crislip and Luria abstaining.

SECRETARY/TREASURER'S REPORT: Patt Spencer reported the following amounts - The Operating Account expenses were \$61.91, leaving a balance of \$731.36. The Publicity Account had no expenses, leaving balances of \$1,298.00. There is no date on the report, so she does not know for what period this is. There is also no accounting for the refreshment account.

Papakolea Community Report- Chair Al Canopin gave the following report:

1. Papakolea activities
 - a. Tuesday July 25, a community sign waving reminding motorists to slow down will take place in front of Lincoln Elementary School. HPD will have officers on site with laser guns.

- b. Thursday July 27, a voter registration drive by Empowering Natives to Vote will be for Papakolea and Kewalo with 375 households approached.
- c. Saturday July 29, a health fair will take place at the Papakolea Recreational Facility 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
- d. Pauoa Elementary School will begin school on Friday July 28, 2006. Kawanānakoā Middle School will begin on Monday July 31, 2006.
- e. Catfish fishing applications at Nuuanu Reservoir will be available from DLNR from next Monday to August 11, with the season starting August 24. For more information, please call 832-5009.

Chair Canopin deferred all other Board business to make announcements:

- 1. The next Board meeting will be held at Pauoa Elementary School. Booth District Park will be going through renovations and the installation of a new roof so the move to Pauoa Elementary School will provide a good centralized meeting place with amenable parking.
- 2. Senatorial candidates Ed Case and Senator Daniel Akaka have been invited to attend next Board meeting and notice will be sent out on their attendance at the next meeting.
- 3. Board member Nerney commented that it was unfair that Chair Canopin had changed the location of the meeting without consulting the Board.

Adjournment

- 1. Chair Canopin defers all other Board business and adjourns the meeting at 9:00 p.m.

Reviewed by:

Patt Spencer
McCully Board Secretary/Treasurer

Submitted by:

Vanessa Matautia
Neighborhood Commission Staff